

## Postal Agents Join in Federal Probe of Klan

Hays Declares Vigorous Investigation Is Being Made by His Department; Harding Advised of Inquiry

Method Is Kept Secret

Daugherty Confers With Burns; Will Seek Real Purpose of Organization

WASHINGTON, Sept. 21.—Following closely the statement that the Department of Justice was investigating the Ku-Klux Klan, Postmaster General Hays, in his conference to-day with newspaper men, disclosed that agents of the department also were inquiring into the activities of the organization. Mr. Hays declined to say on what angle the investigation was being made, and said he was not yet ready to make a statement concerning the matter.

"I cannot discuss that now," the Postmaster General said, "further than to say that the inspection service is making a very vigorous investigation of the Ku-Klux Klan."

The President and the Attorney General conferred to-day regarding the activities of what Mr. Daugherty termed "the so-called Ku-Klux Klan."

After the conference the Attorney General said that he had advised the President of the steps taken thus far by the Department of Justice in keeping informed concerning the movements of the organization and in making a study of its literature.

W. J. Burns, head of the bureau of investigation of the Department of Justice, conferred with the Attorney General this morning prior to the latter's visit to the White House.

The Federal government will take no steps against the Ku-Klux Klan at this time, Mr. Daugherty indicated, but the Department of Justice is to continue its probe into the activities of

the Klan. There is a question involved as to just what angle the Department of Justice would take in proceeding against the society, the Attorney General indicated.

Burns did not confer with Federal District Attorney Haywood of New York to-day, though he recently discussed the case with Mr. Haywood.

Any Federal action against the Ku-Klux Klan would undoubtedly be taken under statutes covering a conspiracy against the government. The Attorney General feels that thus far the literature of the Klan, which has been gone over by agents from the Department of Justice, is not illegal. What transpires behind the scenes tending toward "invisible government" is what interests the authorities.

**Clarke and Mrs. Taylor Resign Klan Offices**

**Simmons to Investigate Before Acceptance; Jersey 'Kleagle' Is Dismissed by Woman**

*Special Dispatch to The Tribune*

ATLANTA, Sept. 21.—Announcement was made to-day that Imperial Kleagle Edward Young Clarke and his associate in the publicity department of the Ku-Klux Klan, Mrs. Elizabeth Tyler, had separately tendered their resignations to Imperial Wizard William J. Simmons, to take effect at any time that he considered their continuance in office detrimental to the best interests of the organization.

Simmons admitted that he had received these resignations, but said that he had taken no action up to the present time. He added that he wanted to investigate all the charges.

Before she tendered her resignation Mrs. Tyler sent a telegram to A. Donald Bate, a district Kleagle of New Jersey, dismissing him from office. This action was taken following a telegram from Bate in which he urged Simmons to dismiss Mrs. Tyler and Clarke. Simmons, on the other hand, declared that Bate had not been dismissed and that he had as yet taken no action on his case further than to wire Grand Goblin Adkins, of New Jersey, to investigate.

The cause of the attack on the two officials arose from the publication of the records in a police court case in 1919, at a time when Clarke and Mrs. Tyler were arrested at midnight in her home. Clarke was quoted in an Atlanta paper as explaining this incident by the fact that he was living in a hotel, was taken ill, and removed to Mrs. Tyler's home in order to get

proper attention. Both deny any charges of wrong doing.

Another development of to-day comes in announcement that the police court docket containing these cases has been mutilated, a page being torn out, that there is no record at the Superior Court clerk's office of a divorce suit filed by Mrs. Clarke against her husband. Police officers have been detailed on the case, and demand for grand jury investigation. The grand jury will meet Friday.

**300 Klansmen Kidnap Editor, Then Parade**

**Masked Men Ride Through Shawnee, Okla., Warning All Citizens to Heed Their Law**

SHAWNEE, Okla., Sept. 21.—Three hundred members of the Ku-Klux Klan, in official regalia, paraded through the main streets of Shawnee and Tecumseh late last night, after capturing the night editor of a local newspaper and taking him on the journey. Nothing was done other than to display banners and send a warning note to law violators through the columns of a Shawnee newspaper.

Before allowing the newspaper man to leave the car in which he was taken on the trip, the following note was handed to him, addressed to a Shawnee newspaper:

"We are one thousand strong in Shawnee. Good Americans uphold the law. Watch the ownership of your paper and keep it in the hands of good Americans. We will clean Shawnee when the time is ripe. Bootleggers and gamblers will save trouble by leaving now."

In addition to the warning sent to the newspaper, the following banners were carried on the sides of the sixty cars in the parade:

"Don't follow us; it's not safe."

"You can't eat grub your wife made by washing."

"We'll be back; be careful and be a man."

"Judges, you know your duty—we are with you when you do it, but you must do it."

"Look out if you do not heed these signs."

"Fooling around the other fellow's home is not wise."

"Joyriders, be careful."

"We have your law."

"Lawyers, make your money off legitimate cases."

"If you want to be healthy, don't go on lawbreakers' bonds."

## Escaped Convict Caught When He Meets Wife

Fugitive Who Slid Down Telephone Wire From the Roof of Sing Sing Prison Is Captured Here

He Offers No Resistance

Joseph Sorace Describes His Ride Down Wire as Piece of "Rapid Transit"

Joseph Sorace, twenty-one years old, escaped Sing Sing prisoner, was recaptured last night at the Harlem River Speedway and 155th Street by Detectives Edward Cooper and Christopher Kelly of the Bomb Squad. Sorace had been at large since September 14.

The man's escape was one of the most remarkable in Sing Sing's history. He cut two bars of his cell with a file stolen from the tinshop, climbed through the hole he made and scaled the wall of the prison from the sixth tier to the roof. Sorace slid seventy feet to the ground on a telephone wire, sealed the fence surrounding the river front, swam to the south side of the yard and then made his way along railway tracks to liberty.

News that the prisoner had been seen was received from various directions. The detectives learned that Sorace succeeded in reaching New York City by aid of automobiles. He said three different persons gave him lifts. When asked how he had made his way down seventy feet of thin telephone wire, he grinned and remarked that it was "rapid transit."

Sorace had just been discharged from the navy in 1919 when arrested with his brother Frank, and John Egan, a stepbrother, for the alleged murder of Louis Klein, June 20 of that year, in a holdup. Egan was sentenced to death. Sorace pleaded guilty to manslaughter and was given a twenty-year sentence. On receiving news of the escape a

watch was set by detectives over Sorace's wife's apartment, 550 West Forty-fifth Street. Yesterday, at 2 o'clock, Mrs. Sorace emerged with her baby in her arms and near her home met a man who accompanied her to 147th Street and Broadway. There another man joined the pair and the three went to 210 West 147th Street. After half an hour they emerged and proceeded to the rendezvous on the Speedway, where Sorace joined them. When Detectives Cooper and Kelly appeared, Sorace was taken by surprise, offering no resistance. He will be returned to Sing Sing to-day.

**Alleged Gem Snatcher Taken After Struggle**

Prisoner and Detective Roll Down "L" Stairs During Fight at Station

As Detective Joseph Neary, of the East Thirty-fifth Street Station, stepped from a southbound Third Avenue "L,"

train at the Forty-second Street station at 9:30 o'clock last night he caught sight of two men standing at the edge of the station platform near the middle of one of the cars. Their actions aroused his suspicions.

As the train started one of the men, the detective said, thrust his hand through an open window and snatched a brooch from the waist of a woman passenger. The detective sprang toward the men and they dashed toward the platform stairs. The detective gave chase and at the top of the stairway grabbed one of the men. They struggled and then rolled down the stairs.

When they hit the bottom Neary pounced on his man and escorted him to the East Thirty-fifth Street station. The prisoner said he was Teddy Mandel, a fruit dealer, of 437 East Twelfth Street. His alleged companion, Frank Russo, of 322 East Eleventh Street, was arrested a short time later. They were locked up, charged with grand larceny. The brooch the detective declared was snatched from the passenger was not found.

## Threat of Mine Strike Seen in New Wage Plan

Demand for Increase Next Year Revealed by Reports of High Officers

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., Sept. 21.—A demand for wage increases next year for coal miners, expressed to-day by reports of international officers of the United Mine Workers of America to the union's convention in session here, carried an implied threat of a strike involving the largest number of organized miners in the history of the United States.

The threat of the strike was seen in the report of Vice-President Philip Murray, who said it was a foregone conclusion that the convention would favor improvement of present wage agreements that expire next March 31. The report was not acted on.

The report of Secretary William Green gave the union's membership for the last year as more than 515,000 workers.

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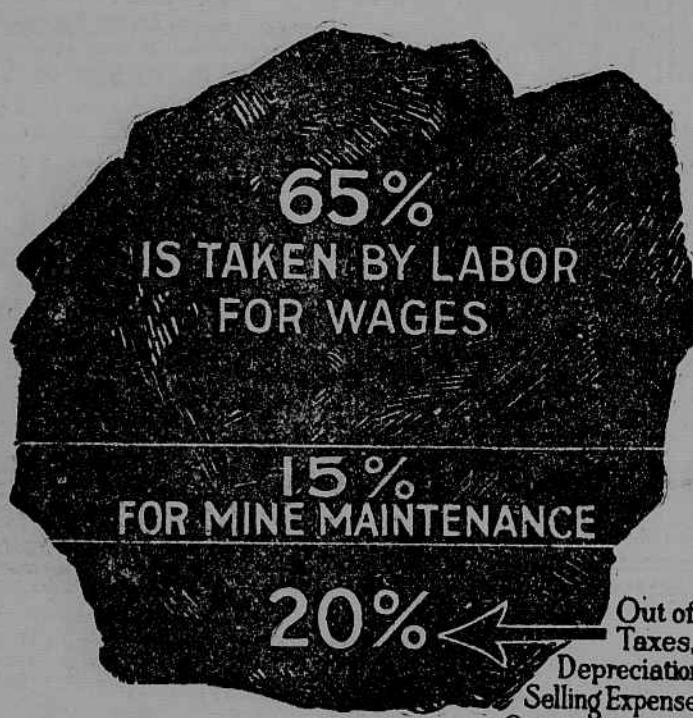
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